BEFORE THE HEATING, VENTILATION, AIR CONDITIONING AND REFRIGERATION LICENSING BOARD

DIVISION OF LABOR

DEPARTMENT OF LABOR AND LICENSING STATE OF ARKANSAS

IN RE:

AARON BRADSHER DBA – BRADSHER HOME INSPECTIONS

#32 Eagle Dr Bono, AR 72416

ORDER

On this 13th day of July 2022, this matter came before the Heating, Ventilation, Air Conditioning and Refrigeration (HVACR) Licensing Board of the State of Arkansas. Miles Morgan, Associate Counsel, Department of Labor, and Licensing, represented the agency. Aaron Bradsher was properly notified and did not appear before the board in person or via zoom for the hearing. Based on the testimony and other evidence, the Board makes the following Findings of Fact and Conclusions of Law.

FINDINGS OF FACT:

 On May 24, 2022, the Arkansas Department of Labor and Licensing issued a civil money penalty to Mr. Aaron Bradsher ("Bradsher") in the total amount of \$6,000.00. This sum includes a civil penalty of \$250.00 each for four (24) separate violations of the State HVAC/R code as adopted by the Board.

- Bradsher was timely notified of his hearing before the Board on May 26, 2022. The hearing would be held on Wednesday July 13, 2022, at 10 a.m.
- 3. Bradsher is doing business as "Bradsher Home Inspectors."
- The inspection by the Arkansas Department of Labor and Licensing ("ADLL") was the result of a complaint filed by homeowner, William (Bill) Peeks of Osceola, Arkansas.
- Inspector Don Brannen determined twenty-four (24) violations of the State HVACR
 Code as adopted by the Board.
- Included in the inspection report; photos taken by Brannen over the span of a few months showing multiple violations.
- Text messages provided by the homeowner referenced several individuals were working with or for Mr. Bradsher, they are identified by first name only over the course of time.
- Images presented showed a lack of proper installation as well as health and safety violations.
- Bradsher did not appear in-person or via zoom as he was offered.

CONCLUSIONS OF LAW:

- Ark. Code Ann. § 17-33-202 et seq. authorizes the Department of Labor and Licensing to
 assess a civil money penalty subject to appeal to the Board for licensing violations;
 violations of the HVACR Code Authority Act, Ark. Code Ann. § 17-33-204 et seq.; and
 violations of rules promulgated by the Board.
- Ark. Code Ann. § 17-33-307(2) authorizes the Board to suspend or revoke any license or registration if it finds that the holder of the license or registrant has demonstrated

- incompetency to act as a license holder or registrant according to rules and standards promulgated by the board.
- 3. The civil money penalty in this case equals or is less than the \$250.00 per violation for a first offense established by statute. Ark. Code Ann. § 17-33-204. The penalties are also within the guidelines established by the rule of the Board.
- 4. The Board, in its discretion, may increase or decrease a penalty taking into consideration:
 - a. The degree and extent of harm to the public safety or to property, or the potential harm;
 - b. The duration and gravity of the violation;
 - Whether the violation was committed willfully or intentionally, or reflects a continuing pattern;
 - d. Whether the violation involved elements of fraud or deception either to the public or the Board, or both;
 - e. The violator's prior disciplinary record with the Board;
 - f. Whether and to the extent which the violator profited by the violation.
- In the present case, the Board has affirmed the civil money penalty assessed against Mr.
 Bradsher, in the amount of \$6000.00. This penalty is far below the maximum the Board
 could have allowed in matters such as this.
- Inspector Brannen met with Mr. Bradsher on two (2) separate occasions and spoke with him by phone once and explained the violations. The repairs were never made by Bradsher to comply with the HVAC/R code.
- 7. Bradsher did receive \$34,166.17.00 for his work from the jobsite.
- The Board voted to impose a civil money penalty of \$6,000.00.

IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED that the civil money penalty assessed by the Director of the Department of Labor and Licensing against Aaron Bradsher in the amount of \$6,000.00 is affirmed.

HEATING, VENTILLATION, AIR CONDITIONING and REFRIGERATION LICENSING BOARD, DEPARTMENT OF LABOR AND LICENSING, STATE OF ARKANSAS

By

Alan Dean, Chairman

Date: 7-25-22

/s/ Miles Morgan

Miles Morgan, 2017-049

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